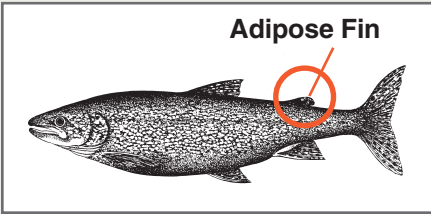


Marked and Tagged Fish

In evaluating the migration, survival, and harvest of various fish stocks, the DNR often times marks fish with a fin clip, external tag, or an internal tag. You might take a fish bearing an external tag with the letters DNR, WIDNR, IDNR, IDC, FWS, or OMNR inscribed. **If you catch one of these fish, please record the following information and notify the nearest DNR Operations Service Center (see p. 24): species, length, weight, sex (if possible), date and location caught, and fin clip or tag number. If releasing the fish, please do not remove the tag.**

Many Great Lakes trout/salmon have been marked with a microscopic coded-wire tag implanted in the head of the fish. Fish with these tags can be identified by the absence of the adipose fin (see diagram). If you catch a trout or salmon with ONLY its adipose fin missing, that fish could have such a tag. Please record the information cited above, freeze only the head and take it to (or notify) the nearest Fisheries office. **Do not mail it!** Drop sites are listed on the DNR Web site, www.michigan.gov/dnr or call 517-373-1280. Thank you for your assistance.



Angler Rights On Public Streams

On fenced or posted property or farm property, a fisherman wading or floating a navigable public stream may, without written or oral consent, enter upon property within the clearly defined banks of the stream or, without damaging farm products, walk a route as closely proximate to the clearly defined bank as possible when necessary to avoid a natural or artificial hazard or obstruction, including, but not limited to, a dam, deep hole, or a fence or other exercise of ownership by the riparian owner.

Railroad Rights-Of-Way

Railroad rights-of-way are private property. Trespassing on railroad property, including trestles and bridges, is a misdemeanor. You must have written permission of the railroad company to be exempt from railway trespass.

Harassment

Anglers in Michigan have the right to enjoy their sport free from unreasonable and deliberate interference. Michigan law prohibits individuals from obstructing or interfering with the lawful taking of aquatic species. The DNR supports fishing as a legitimate form of recreation and as a useful tool in the management of aquatic resources. Michigan Conservation Officers are committed to protecting anglers from the intentional disruption of the fishing experience. Individuals whose fishing is being obstructed should promptly report the violation to the DNR by calling a local Conservation Officer, the nearest DNR office (see Directory, p.24) or toll free 800-292-7800 (RAP hotline).

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD)

When selecting a PFD, read the label to make sure it is for a person of your size and weight. Try your PFD on to make sure it fits properly and check to make sure it is U.S. Coast Guard approved.

Craft under 16 feet long:

If your boat is less than 16 feet long or it is a canoe or kayak, you must choose either wearable or throwable PFDs. You must still have one PFD for each person on board. The U.S. Coast Guard requires all vessels less than 16 feet, used on the Great Lakes or connecting waterways, to carry one wearable approved Type I, II, or III device for each person on board.

Craft 16 feet or longer:

If your boat is 16 feet or longer, you must have on board at least one Throwable Device (Type IV PFD), **PLUS** one of any of these wearable PFDs for each person on board:

- Offshore Life Jacket (Type I PFD)
- Near-shore Buoyant Vest (Type II PFD)
- Flotation Aid (Type III PFD)

Michigan law requires:

- Everyone operating, riding on, or being towed by a personal watercraft must wear Type I, II, or III PFD.
- Persons less than six years old must wear a Type I or Type II PFD when riding on the open deck area of a boat underway.

Fishing Tournament Information

Fishing tournament permits can be obtained by visiting www.mcgi.state.mi.us/mrbis. Click on the water body search link then enter a water body name and click on the access site name for information.